

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a web-shaped packaging laminate, comprising a core layer of paper or paperboard, the method comprising:

coating a first side of a material web of paper or paperboard with an outer layer of thermoplastic material;

thereafter, with the aid of laser burning, forming on the thus thermoplastic coated first side of the packaging laminate, a perforation line through said thermoplastic layer and said core layer, wherein after said coating with the thermoplastic material, but before the formation of the perforation, compressing the packaging laminate on said first side, for the formation of a compression line in which said core layer is compressed, whereafter said perforation line is formed in said compression line and the compression line and the perforation line are formed in relation to one another such that a build-up of thermoplastic residual material around the perforation line, after the laser burning, will substantially be located entirely below the level of the surrounding surface of the packaging laminate, the core layer being compressed by at most 70%, and at least 20%, of its original thickness in said compression line.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the compression is from 1.5 times wider than the perforation line, to 10 times wider than the perforation line.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said web-shaped packaging laminate is further processed after the forming of the perforation line, on rollers and/or by rolling up on a reel.

5. (Currently Amended) A plant in the manufacture of a web-shaped packaging laminate comprising a core layer of paper or paperboard, the plant comprising;

a coating station for forming a coating layer of a thermoplastic material on a first side of said core layer

a perforation station following the coating station and including a laser burner, the perforation station being disposed to form a laser-burned perforation line on the first side of the packaging laminate through said thermoplastic layer and said core layer; and

a compression station between said coating station and said perforation station, including a compression tool disposed to form a compression line on said first side of the packaging laminate, and that said perforation station is disposed to form said perforation line in said compression line and said compression tool includes a roller which displays a projecting compression portion around its circumference, said projecting compression portion being 1-3 mm wide and 0.2-2

mm high above the surrounding surface of the roller, as well as a counter roller which preferably displays a smooth circumferential surface, a gap between said roller and said counter roller being adjustable.

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Previously Presented) The plant as claimed in Claim 5 wherein it includes additional, subsequent stations for further processing or handling of the packaging laminate, including rollers and/or stations for rolling up the packaging laminate on a reel.

8. (Currently Amended) A packaging laminate, comprising:
a core layer of paper or paperboard as well as a thermoplastic coating layer on a first side thereof;
a laser-burned perforation line through the core layer and the thermoplastic layer, wherein said perforation line is disposed in a compression line on the first side of the packaging laminate, in which compression line said core layer is compressed and the compression line and the perforation line are formed in relation to one another so that a build-up of thermoplastic residual material around the perforation line is substantially located entirely below the level of the surrounding surface of the packaging laminate when the compression line is formed before the perforation line, the core layer being compressed in said compression line by at most 70%, but at least 20%, in relation to its thickness surrounding the compression line.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Previously Presented) The packaging laminate as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the compression line is from 1.5 times wider than the perforation line, to ten times as wide.

11. (Previously Presented) The packaging laminate as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said thermoplastic coating layer displays a surface weight or grammage of 20-50 g/m², and includes a thermoplastic material selected from a group consisting of polyethylene and polypropylene.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the core layer is compressed by at most 60% and at least 30%.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the compression line is from twice as wide to five times as wide as the perforation line.

14. (Previously Presented) The plant as claimed in claim 5 wherein the projecting compression portion is 1.5 - 2.5 mm wide.

15. (Previously Presented) The plant as claimed in claim 5 wherein the projecting compression portion is 0.2 - 1 mm high above the surrounding surface of the roller.

16. (Previously Presented) The packaging laminate as claimed in claim 8 wherein the core layer is compressed by at most 60% and at least 20%.

17. (Previously Presented) The packaging laminate as claimed in claim 8 wherein the compression line is from twice as wide to five times as wide as the perforation line.

18. (Previously Presented) The packaging laminate as claimed in claim 8 wherein said thermoplastic coating layer displays a surface weight or grammage of 20-40 g/m².

19. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic layer sinks into the core layer but is not compressed.

20. (Previously Presented) The packaging laminate as claimed in claim 8 wherein the thermoplastic layer sinks into the core layer but is not compressed.